

# Weekly National Intelligencer

WASHINGTON: THURSDAY, JUNE 16, 1864.

## Weekly National Intelligencer.

By GALE & SEATON.

JAMES C. WELLING, ASSOCIATE EDITOR.

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## THE REPUBLICAN NOMINATIONS.

We yesterday announced that the Republican Convention assembled in the city of Baltimore had nominated President LINCOLN for re-election to the office he now holds.

This result has been so long foreseen, and was so clearly rendered a foregone conclusion by the instructions under which the great majority of the delegates met, that the announcement has failed to elicit any surprise, or to awaken the interest which attaches to the proceedings of such a Convention when assembled under circumstances which call it to ascertain as well as to announce the preponderant sense of the body.

The considerations which have dictated the re-nomination of Mr. Lincoln at the present time are apparent to all. A leading Republican journal of New York, pressing only a week ago the result actually reached by the Baltimore Convention on Wednesday last, found a sufficient explanation of such result in the fact that the Convention would "consist largely of men holding office under the present Administration, and who, by that bond, are bound to a partisanship which more disinterested persons would deprecate and avoid." We do not know how largely the Convention was composed of such persons, and cannot, therefore, appreciate the weight that should be given to the observations of our contemporary on this score, but we incline to the opinion that aside from the strength actually imparted to Mr. Lincoln's aspirations for a re-nomination by such adventitious support resulting from the present possession of power and place, he is to-day none the less the free choice of the great majority of his party, and that the Convention could not have nominated any other man without defeating the present wishes of those who compose that party, as well in private life as in public station. And it does not require any sagacity or nice analysis to discern the elements of character which give to President Lincoln his hold on the confidence and respect of his political supporters among the people, for even those among his political opponents who most dissent from the wisdom of some of his executive proceedings can do justice to the personal qualities which have made him popular with different classes of men.

As our own views of public duty compel us to hold, with many among the President's supporters, that his re-nomination at the present time is premature, we have only to await the progress of the events which shall enable us more clearly to appreciate the value and force of his comparative claims to a renewal of the power he has wielded during the last four years. The chaos into which former political combinations have been already remitted by the stress of the times is quite enough to inculcate the duty of caution in attaching confidence to any whose official merits and capabilities are at the present moment undergoing tests which may alter the estimates alike of political friends and adversaries. That leading organ of the Republican party, the New York Independent, thus dismisses and postpones the present consideration of Mr. Lincoln's pretensions to a re-election:

"As to its candidate, we have nothing to say—not a word for or against Mr. Lincoln—not a word for or against any other man whose name may there arise; for the good and sufficient reason that a nomination in June, no matter who may be the nominee, will not be the final and notable nomination. In fact, it is by no means impossible, we do not say probable, that the action of the Baltimore Convention will be entirely set aside, or will depend for its validity upon its ratification by a future Convention. We, therefore, altogether dismiss the question of the candidate—unless to be now considered, as it cannot be now settled."

The nominee of the Convention for the Vice Presidency has long held a conspicuous position in the politics of the country, and though we have uniformly found ourselves in opposition to him, identified as he has been with the Southern Democracy, we have never failed to admire the firmness with which he resisted the seditious purposes of his political confederates in the winter of 1860-61. We are not apprized of the considerations which induced the Convention to ignore the claims of Mr. HAMILTON to a re-nomination, but we are glad that in looking elsewhere for a candidate the Convention selected one who, by his geographical position, will compel his supporters to renounce the political heresy which teaches that the insurgent States are "out of the Union," or have ceased to be "States" in a legal and constitutional sense.

The platform of the Convention does not present any new or salient features, and deals rather in common-places than in clear and cogent political discriminations. At least such is our impression on a first reading of the several resolutions that compose it. As the practical value of the platform in its most essential parts depends altogether on the success of our armies in the field, we postpone any discussion of its theoretical merits, as involving, on some disputed points, considerations of expediency and constitutional law respecting which our opinions have been too repeatedly announced to call for any renewed expression of them.

## REBEL LOSSES.

The Richmond Enquirer gives a list of 11,130 rebel wounded who have been sent to hospitals from Lee's army, and 3,040 from Beauregard's command. This is probably less than the actual losses. Ad several thousand prisoners taken by Grant, and four or five thousand killed outright, and we can approximate to the rebel losses thus far during this memorable campaign.

## INTERCONTINENTAL TELEGRAPH.

We publish to-day a very interesting paper from the SECRETARY OF STATE on a scheme for connecting the Eastern and Western Continents of the World by telegraphic communication, and for which a bill was reported to the Senate on Thursday last by Mr. CHANDLER, from the Committee of Commerce of that body. This bill grants to Perry McDonough Collins, and his associates, the right of way over any unoccupied lands in the United States, with one quarter section of land for every fifteen miles of telegraph. It is designed to connect with the line from the mouth of Amur river, through Asiatic Russia, via Behring's Straits, and down the coast of Russian America. It stipulates that, if the line is constructed within five years, the Secretary of State shall contract for the use of the line for ten years ensuing, for the use of the executive, legislative, and judicial departments of the Government, paying the sum of fifty thousand dollars per year. The grantees are allowed to run a steamer on the Pacific coast for the use of the line.

In reply to an application to the Secretary of State for his views on this important subject, Mr. SEWARD addressed to the Committee of Commerce the letter referred to, in which he discusses the great scheme presented for his examination and opinion in so comprehensive and statesmanlike a manner.

## "RECONSTRUCTION."

Those of our readers who cherish a sufficient respect for our opinions to remember the views of public policy we announce from time to time on the emergence of new questions, will perhaps recall the position we took in regard to the elaborate plan proposed by the President, in his last annual message, for the restoration and "reconstruction" of the insurrectionary States. Without closing our eyes to the theoretical anomalies of that plan, we stated that we should, for practical reasons, decline to enter into any discussion of its merits, which, whatever they might be, we should leave to be discovered by the people of the insurgent States, to whom the plan was particularly addressed, and in whose interest it purported to be conceived and promulgated. We added, at the same time, that if these people should be inclined to adopt it as a provisional "rallying point" for the establishment of a more regular system of State Government which should place them on an equality of rights, and bind them to an equality of duties with their sister States, we were not disposed to raise technical objections against it, lest we might seem willing to defeat its beneficent purpose. If the people concerned should reject it, we wished it to be seen that the plan had failed for other reasons than because of the opposition brought to bear upon it by discussions arising outside of the sphere to which it applies.

When announcing these views under the date of last December 15th, only a few days after the promulgation of the President's plan, we wrote as follows:

"We have very definite and decided views as to the nature and effect of this last proclamation of the President, but we are not in haste to forestall the progress of the events which shall justify or confute them. If the President had assumed to promulgate as any thing more than a tentative expedient, we might not have thought it proper to practise this prudent reserve. But, as it is, we prefer to judge of the plan by its fruits."

The "plan" has now been sufficiently long before the country, and has been sufficiently subjected to the test of experience, to enable us to pronounce on its merits as judged by the fruits it has borne. And hence it was that in the early part of the present month, and with particular reference to the illustrations afforded by the example of Louisiana, Arkansas, and Florida, we felt it just to avow the opinion, after the precedent set by the recent course of events in those States, that it might be advisable for our civil and military authorities to look a little more closely to the stability and breadth of the foundations on which they build, before they proceed to "reconstruct" the fabric of the Seceded States. A "one-tenth vote" has proved to be a narrow and uncertain base.

In confirmation of these views we take pleasure in citing the subjoined remarks of Mr. COLLAMER, of Vermont, delivered in the Senate on the 9th instant, while the bill regulating commercial intercourse with the insurrectionary States was under discussion in that body. He said:

"I wish it to be born in mind that, as I understand it, all attempts to undertake to say that a particular section of a State, or a whole State, is in rebellion, is to say that the inhabitants declare themselves to be loyal, and are reclaimed from a state of insurrection, are practically impossible; it is a failure. I need not go over the periphrasis that has been made under that. What has been done in Florida? You take possession of two or three towns, invite the people to take the oath of allegiance, and then in a few weeks you are compelled to leave there and turn over those people whom you have thus induced to take the oath of allegiance to the mercy of their enemies if they have any; you abandon them to the enemy. It has been done in Texas; it has been done in a part of North Carolina; and I think it has been done to some extent in Louisiana. How many of those good people who have been thus practised upon have actually lost their lives? I do not know, but I think large numbers. The truth is, that to reclaim any State or part of a State to allegiance to the country, and to re-establish an entire government over it according to the genius of, or institutions, with proper local legislation and United States legislation, is a thing impracticable until the whole insurrection, all its military power, is put down every where. The army of the rebels has been broken out of Tennessee, but it is down on the borders of Georgia, fifty or one hundred miles off; the war is going on; one-half the people of Tennessee are looking to that rebel army with a hope of its return, and the rest of them are looking to it with a fear of its return. How can any State be reclaimed, in that way? It never can be done. The truth is that the military force of this insurrection must be subdued every where before you can reclaim and return to their allegiance people any where."

Nothing more than this need be said to point out the theoretical incongruity and the practical futility of these premature efforts to "reconstruct" the insurgent States on the basis of a small fraction of their people, who may have taken certain oaths, framed and prescribed in this city, as the test of an "allegiance" equally unknown to the Constitution and laws of the United States, and to the Constitution and laws of the several States.

## CONGRESSIONAL SUMMARY.

THURSDAY, JUNE 9, 1864.

In the SENATE the bill granting lands to the State of Michigan for the construction of certain wagon roads for military and postal purposes was, on motion of Mr. HOWARD, taken up and passed.

Mr. DAVIS offered a joint resolution to restore peace among the people of the United States, which was read. Messrs. SUMNER and HOWARD objected to its reception, and the CHAIR decided that the resolution was not in order. Mr. DAVIS contended that objections were void, as the resolution had been read by its title, and the second reading was called for. Mr. JOHNSON thought it too late to object to the reception, but said he would vote against the resolution because he thought it ill-advised. Mr. CONNESS thought the resolution insurrectionary, and he was not in favor of taking a vote upon it. Mr. LANE moved that the resolution be rejected. Mr. DAVIS said he was indifferent what the Senate did with his proposition, but he now wished it to be laid on the table and be printed. Mr. HOWARD said the Chair had decided that the resolution had not been received, therefore it could not be printed. The gentleman from Kentucky had appealed from that decision, and the only question was whether the decision of the Chair should be sustained. On a vote being taken the decision ruling the resolution out of order was sustained.

On motion of Mr. MORRILL the Senate took up the bill in addition to the several acts concerning commercial intercourse between loyal and insurrectionary States, and to provide for the collection of captured and abandoned property and the prevention of frauds in States declared in insurrection.

Mr. MORRILL explained that the object of the bill was twofold. The act of March, 1863, provided agents to collect certain property of persons in rebellion. By certain other acts all commercial intercourse between the loyal and disloyal States was declared forfeited. This act simply proposed to provide for the appointment of agents.

Considerable debate followed, after which the further consideration of the bill was postponed.

The bill to repeal the commutation clause in the enlistment act came up in its order, the question being on the amendment of Mr. WILSON authorizing the President to call out for a period not exceeding one year such number of men as the exigencies of the service may require.

Mr. WILSON withdrew his amendment and accepted as a substitute one offered by Mr. COLLAMER, substantially the same in effect, but containing some provisions calculated to meet objections which had been urged during the debate of Wednesday.

The discussion on the bill as proposed to be amended was very animated, and occupied the attention of the Senate during the remainder of the session.

Mr. COLLAMER's amendment was finally adopted by 22 yeas to 17 nays. It allows the Secretary of War to call out men by draft for a period not exceeding one year without any provision for commutation or exemption except by the procurement of an acceptable substitute.

Without action on the bill as amended, the Senate, at a quarter past five o'clock adjourned.

In the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES the bill to incorporate the Baltimore and Washington Depot and Potomac Ferry Company was passed.

A joint resolution was passed, requiring the Secretary of the Interior to cause surveys to be made and estimates prepared for additional facilities for drainage and sewerage in the city of Washington, in connection with the introduction of Potomac water and the deepening of the channel of the Potomac river. The expenses of the survey not to exceed three thousand dollars.

Mr. BRANDEGE reported a bill for the construction of a railroad for military and postal purposes between New York and Washington. A debate ensued on a motion that the bill be printed, recommended to the select committee, and a day designated for its consideration. Before deciding this motion—

Mr. JENCKES called up the bankrupt bill, which was yesterday ordered to be engrossed for a third reading. The bill was rejected—yeas 64, nays 65. Mr. CRYSTON moved to reconsider this vote, and lay that motion on the table, pending which the morning hour expired.

The House then proceeded to the consideration of bills reported from the Committee of Commerce, several of which were passed; and then the House adjourned.

FRIDAY, JUNE 10, 1864.

In the SENATE a petition was presented by Mr. SHERMAN from the wool-growers of Ohio, praying an increase of the duty on wool. It was referred to the Committee on Finance. A petition was presented by Mr. SUMNER from the yearly meeting of the Society of Progressive Friends, at Chester, (Pa.) praying the passage of a law by Congress for the total abolition of slavery. It was referred to the Committee on Slavery. A memorial of Margaret A. Lawrie, praying compensation for property destroyed by the United States forces in the District of Columbia, was on motion of Mr. SPRAGUE, taken from the files and referred to the Committee on Claims.

Mr. MORRILL, from the Committee on Claims, reported adversely on the bill for the relief of Mary Throckmorton for compensation for six slaves freed in the District of Columbia; and the bill was indefinitely postponed.

Mr. WILKINSON introduced a joint resolution amending the act for the protection of the route from Fort Abercrombie by Fort Benton, and making it "Fort Ridgely through Montana and Idaho." It was referred to the Military Committee.

Mr. LANE, of Kansas, offered the following, which was laid on the table and ordered to be printed:

WHEREAS the President of the United States, by proclamation on the 1st of January, 1863, did, among other things, proclaim and declare that the "people of Arkansas are in rebellion against the United States;" and whereas the loyal people of the State of Arkansas have since that time by a free and untrammelled vote, organized and have in operation a State government upon a free basis and republicanism in form; and whereas, pending the organization of said government, the President of the United States did, by proclamation on the 8th day of December, 1863, invite, among others, the people of Arkansas, to organize a loyal State government upon a free basis; and whereas the President of the United States approved said organization in the State of Arkansas and officially recognized the same: Therefore

Be it resolved, That so much of the proclamation or proclamations of the President of the United States, and as much of all laws of Congress as declare the people of the State of Arkansas in rebellion, be and is hereby declared invalid and void.

And be it further resolved, That the present organized government of the State of Arkansas be and is hereby recognized upon the condition that slavery and involuntary servitude shall never exist in said State, except as a punishment for crime.

The Indian appropriation bill was taken up, on motion of Mr. FENNER, and the amendments of the Finance Committee, and others offered by Mr. DOOLITTLE, were adopted. The bill, as amended, is still pending.

Mr. HOWE, from the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the army appropriation bill, made a report recommending that the Senate recede from its amendments in relation to the increased pay of colored troops. By the provisions of the House bill the decision of the question of retroactive pay to colored troops is left to the Attorney General. Without action on the report of the committee, the Senate, at five o'clock, adjourned.

In the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES the case of contested election from the sixth Congressional district of Missouri—Samuel Knox against F. P. Blair, the sitting member—was called up by Mr. DAWES.

After conversation between Messrs. DAWES, GANSON, and others, a motion was made to postpone the subject until Friday next. But this was disagreed to—yeas 57, nays 72.

The House then proceeded to consider the resolution reported from the Committee of Elections, namely: That F. P. Blair is not, but that Samuel Knox is, entitled to the seat.

Mr. DAWES, of Massachusetts, sustained this resolution. Mr. BROWN, of Wisconsin, opposed it. Finally the resolution was passed.

The contested election case, in which the committee had reported in favor of Gen. Todd against William Janney, was debated until the hour of adjournment.

SATURDAY, JUNE 11, 1864.

In the SENATE a bill was reported by Mr. FOSTER, from the Committee on Claims, to amend an act granting pensions. He stated that among other cases it would offer those of relief for the widows and children of the colored soldiers massacred at Fort Pillow.

Mr. TRUMBULL introduced a bill in relation to the Circuit Courts of the United States, which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. The bill provides that in case of division of opinion between the judges in any matter which cannot by law be certified to the Supreme Court the opinion of the presiding judge shall prevail, and be the judgment of the Circuit Court.

Mr. HANLAN, from the Committee on Public Lands, reported favorably on the bill granting lands to the State of Wisconsin to build a military road to Lake Superior.

Mr. LANE, of Kansas, submitted the following as an additional section of the joint resolution offered by him on Friday relative to recognizing the new State Government of Arkansas, and it was ordered to be printed:

That the joint resolution shall be in force from and after the acceptance of its provisions by the people of the said State and proclamation of the same by the President of the United States.

On motion of Mr. CARLILE the bill to ascertain and settle private land claims in California was taken up. Mr. JOHNSON explained the case of the Miranda grant, as affected by the bill, and held that, as the Supreme Court had declined to confirm the title in either of the claimants, on the facts before it at the time, the United States was not to take advantage of that fact, and claim the lands for itself, because of acquiescence upon it. After further debate, the bill was made a special order for Monday.

The Indian appropriation bill came up as the unfinished business, and a long discussion ensued on the proposition to pay interest on the abstracted bonds of Indians, involving the whole question of the obligations of the Government and the loyalty and disloyalty of the Indians. A section appropriating \$350,000 for interest on Southern State bonds, held in trust for the Indians, was rejected; and an appropriation of \$5,000 was made for the relief of certain Kansas tribes instead.

Mr. WILSON called up the report of the committee of conference on the army appropriation bill, and stated that, though not entirely satisfied with the recommendations relative to the pay of colored troops, he should now vote for its acceptance.

The disagreements were principally in regard to making the pay of negro soldiers the same as that of white soldiers from the 1st of January last, (so as to include the back pay of the two Massachusetts negro regiments and those first raised in South Carolina and Louisiana.) The report of the conference committee is as follows:

"All persons of color who were free on the 19th of April, 1861, and who have been enlisted and mustered into the military service of the United States, shall, from the time of their enlistment, be entitled to receive the pay, bounty, and clothing allowed to such persons by the laws existing at the time of their enlistment. And the Attorney General is authorized to determine any question of law arising under this provision, and if the Attorney General shall decide that any such enlisted persons are entitled to receive any pay, bounty, or clothing in addition to what they have already received, the Secretary of War shall make all necessary regulations to enable the pay department to make payment in accordance with such determination."

Mr. SUMNER also indicated an indisposition to delay any longer. The subject of settling the pay of colored soldiers was left to an officer of the Government.

The report of the committee was then adopted, and the Senate, at half past four o'clock, adjourned.

In the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES a motion was made by Mr. STEVENS to take up a bill which he explained as follows: Last February Congress passed an act giving until the 15th of June to withdraw, for home consumption, goods, wares, and merchandise from the public stores and bonded warehouses. This time is near approaching, and the object of the bill is simply to extend the time, for a like purpose, until the 1st of September next. Mr. S. further said, in reply to an inquiry, that whenever goods are bonded for more than one year, for exportation, no duty is paid; but if withdrawn for home consumption, the Government receives the duty. The bill was considered and passed.

The bill to incorporate the institution for providing homes for friendless women and children in the city of Washington was taken up, and the amendments of the Senate to the said bill were concurred in.

Mr. COX, of Ohio, offered a resolution, which was passed, that the House (the Senate concurring) close the present session of Congress on Thursday, the 23rd inst.

Mr. WILSON, of Iowa, from the Committee on the Judiciary, made a report on the resolution referred to them, instructing an inquiry by what warrant or authority the bill providing for the collection of abandoned property and the prevention of frauds in insurrectionary districts, approved March 12, 1863, became a law; and whether said act is in force. The committee say they sent a note to the Secretary of State, who replied to their question that the bill was approved on that day; and that the date, as well as the signature, is in the handwriting of the President. The truth is established that, owing to the great press of business on the 4th of March, 1863, the bill did not reach the President until after Congress adjourned.

The committee briefly state the President's reasons why he signed the bill during the recess, believing he was justified in doing so by constitutional warrant; but they say, although there is force and plausibility in the reasoning, they receive as a correct interpretation of the Constitution that the ten days' limitation refers to the time during which Congress remains in session, and has no application after an adjournment. Hence, if the Executive can hold a bill ten days, he can as well hold it ten months. They would render the enactment of laws uncertain. The committee, for this and other reasons, consider that the act approved March 12, 1863, is not in force, and in this opinion the committee are unanimous. The report was referred to the Committee of Ways and Means, in order that they may report a similar bill.

Mr. BOUTWELL moved a reconsideration of the vote by which, several days ago, the bankrupt bill was rejected. Mr. JENCKES said the bill was the result of close labor of the select committee on the subject, and was the best they could frame under present circumstances. He found the opposition of the House was such that it would not be wise to press its passage at the present time; and even if it should pass the House it would fail in the Senate for want of time. The vote by which the bill was rejected was reconsidered, and then, on motion of Mr. BOUTWELL, the further consideration of the subject was postponed till the second Tuesday of December next.

Mr. DAWES, of Massachusetts, from the Committee of Elections, made a report in the Missouri election case of T. L. Price, who contested the seat of Joseph W. McClurg. He said the case was similar to that of Bruce against Leach, and that the committee had come to the same conclusion. He therefore moved that the committee be discharged from the further consideration of the subject, and the House adjourned.

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and that the report lie upon the table. This was agreed to. A resolution was then adopted allowing mileage and per diem to Messrs. Birch and Price, of Missouri, and Mr. McHenry, of Kentucky, each of whom had unsuccessfully contested the seats of the sitting member from their respective districts.

The case of contested election from the Territory of Dakota—J. B. S. Todd vs. William Jayne—was then taken up, and, after a long debate, the House accorded the seat to Mr. Todd, who was sworn in as the Delegate from the said Territory.

The House, at half past six o'clock, adjourned.

MONDAY, JUNE 13, 1864.

In the SENATE a petition was presented by Mr. SUMNER, from Peter Cooper, of New York, relative to our system of finance, and asking for such taxation as will pay the current expenses of the Government and interest on all the public debt; also suggesting a different system of currency, so as to exclude the issues of State Banks. With Swedenborg, he defines a nation to legislate permanent value into a paper currency. The petition was referred to the Finance Committee.

Messrs. HARRIS, FOOT, and COLLAMER presented petitions praying for the passage of the House bill to secure homesteads on the confiscated and forfeited plantations in the rebel States for the soldiers and sailors in the United States service. They were referred to the Committee on Public Lands.

Mr. GRIMES presented a petition from the constables and from citizens of the District, as well as the Judges of the Supreme Court of this District, praying the repeal of so much of the act of March 3, 1863, as takes from the county constables the right to arrest persons charged with offenses against the criminal law. It was referred to the Committee on the District of Columbia.

Mr. WILSON, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported, with amendment, the House bill to provide for the more speedy punishment of guerrillas.

Mr. LANE, of Kansas, called up his joint resolution for the admission of the free State of Arkansas into the Union, and moved to refer it, together with the credentials of Messrs. Fushback and Baxter, to the Judiciary Committee. A long debate ensued, involving the present status of the State of Arkansas, which occupied the remainder of the sitting. Mr. SUMNER contended that Arkansas was not now legally in the Union, and that her claim to be represented here, or in the House, was not a just one. Mr. JOHNSON argued that the State of Arkansas was still in the Union. The resolutions and credentials were referred to the Judiciary Committee, and, at five o'clock, the Senate adjourned.

In the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES a report was presented by Mr. DAWES, from the Committee of Elections to which the subject of military appointments had been referred, in reference to the cases of Gen. Schenck and Gen. Blair. The substance of the report is, that Major Gen. Robert C. Schenck, having resigned his commission before the commencement of the session of Congress, was not disqualified from holding a seat as a member from Ohio. But that Major Gen. Francis P. Blair, by continuing to hold a military commission till January, 1864, did thereby disqualify himself from holding a seat as a member from Missouri. The report was for the present laid upon the table.

The House concurred in the report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing amendments of the two Houses concerning the pay of certain colored troops. Among other things it authorizes the Attorney General to determine any question of law in order to enable colored troops to receive their bounty, clothing, &c.

Mr. SCHENCK, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported a bill to repeal the three hundred dollar commutation clause in the enlistment bill, and moved the previous question. But, debate rising thereon, the resolution was laid over.

Mr. GARFIELD introduced a joint resolution, which proposes to enact that no State declared to be in rebellion by the proclamation of the President of the United States shall be entitled to appoint electors for President or Vice President, and that no electoral vote from any such State shall be received or counted until both Houses of Congress, by concurrent action, shall have recognized a State government in such State. On motion of Mr. BLAINE, of Maine, this resolution was laid on the table—yeas 104, nays 33.

The House resumed the consideration of the bill to repeal the fugitive slave law. Mr. KING, of Missouri, made a speech in opposition to it. Mr. COX, of Ohio, also opposed the bill. Mr. MORRIS, of New York, and Mr. FARNSWORTH, of Illinois, advocated the bill. It was passed, and the House adjourned.

TUESDAY, JUNE 14, 1864.

In the SENATE a favorable report was made by Mr. HENDRICKS, from the Committee on Public Lands, on the bill to grant to California the four hundred acres of land connected with the penitentiary of that State. The bill was passed.

Mr. FENNER, from the Committee on Finance, reported back the bill from the House increasing the duties on imports, (the tariff bill,) with several amendments.

Mr. WADE called up the House bill to amend the act to provide a temporary government for the Territory of Idaho. It authorizes a reappointment of the Territory, under a new enumeration to be made of the inhabitants, and fixes the election for the 24th of October. The bill was passed.

Mr. GRIMES, from the Committee on the District of Columbia, reported back the House bill to amend the charter of the Washington and Georgetown Railroad Company; also, the bill to incorporate the Baltimore and Washington Depot and Potomac Ferry Railway Company, with amendments. Mr. MORRILL, from the same committee, reported back the bill for the proper organization of the Levy Court of the county of Washington, recommending its passage.

Mr. CHANDLER, on the part of the Committee on Commerce, called up the bill to provide for the repair and preservation of certain public works of the United States. It appropriates \$250,000 for the repair of works connected with harbors in the lakes, and \$100,000 for like purposes on the seaboard. It was explained that, while much larger appropriations could be most advantageously used, it had been determined to ask no more for this purpose at this time than was absolutely indispensable. The bill was passed.

The bill to ascertain and settle private land claims in California (involving the great Miranda grant) came up in its order, and was indefinitely postponed.

Mr. TRUMBULL called up the bill in relation to the fees and emoluments of the marshal, attorney, and clerk of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, and for other purposes. The substitute bill, reported by the District Committee, was slightly amended, and then passed, leaving the limit for the clerk's salary, over and above necessary office expenses and clerk hire, at \$6,000 per annum, to be derived from the fees and emoluments. The provisions as regards the duties and emoluments of the Marshal and District Attorney are in accordance with previous acts.

Mr. FENNER reported the gold bill with amendments, and it was ordered to be printed.

The House bill to establish a Bureau of Freedmen's Affairs was taken up, on motion of Mr. SUMNER, and debated on amendments offered by Messrs. HENDRICKS, SAULSBURY, and WILEY until the adjournment, which took place at five o'clock.

In the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES a bill was reported by Mr. ALLEY, from the Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads, authorizing the Postmaster General, in his discretion, to contract with the present contractor, commonly known as the Overland Mail Company, for one year from the 1st of July next at the present contract rates.

Mr. ALLEY said that by this arrangement the Government would save hundreds of thousands of not millions of dollars. The resolution was ordered to a third reading, but, not having been engrossed, it went to the Speaker's table.

Mr. HOOPER called up the Senate bill to restrain speculation in gold coin and bullion. The House reconsidered the vote by which it was postponed and laid on the table. The bill was passed—yeas 76, nays 62; and, as it has been amended, will have to be returned to the Senate.

The House next considered the bill providing for the payment of sundry civil expenses, including the lighthouse establishment, the coast survey, &c. The enacting clause was stricken out, thus defeating the bill. It was then re-committed to the Committee of Ways and Means.

The consideration of the proposition to amend the Constitution so as to abolish slavery was then resumed, and occupied the House till a late hour at night. Messrs. HIGBY and SHANNON, of California, and Mr. KELLOGG, of Michigan, spoke in favor of the bill; and Messrs. FRY, of Wood, and KALPHEISCH, of New York, Mr. COPPETH, of Pennsylvania, Mr. KOSS, of Illinois, and Mr. HOLMAN, of Indiana, spoke against it. An adjournment took place at a few minutes past 11 o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15, 1864.

In the SENATE a report was presented by Mr. TRUMBULL, from the Judiciary Committee, on the resolution of Mr. Davis relative to Generals Blair and Schenck taking seats in the House while it was admitted by the President that they had